

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

SCS-03 SCA-01 VO-03 PPT-02 SY-10 L-03 DRC-01 SSO-00

/115 W

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P 141400Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0637

CONFIDENTIAL TRIPOLI 1318

CORRECTED COPY (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, CPAS, LY

SUBJECT: PASSPORT PROBLEM

REF: TRIPOLI 1313

1. ENGLISH EDITION OF A.R.N.A., OFFICIAL LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY, RELEASE OF OCT 13 STATES "THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS RECOGNIZED THE ARABIC LANGUAGE AS AN INTERNAL LANGUAGE TO BE USED IN OFFICIAL DEALINGS WITH THE LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC, IT WAS REPORTED HERE TODAY. THIRTY FIVE STATES HAVE SO FAR RECOGNIZED THE ARABIC AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN RESPONSE TO THE LAR'S REQUEST IN THIS RESPECT".

2. COMMENT: BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOT AT THIS TIME MAKE AN ISSUE WITH MFA THAT THEY COMPLETELY OMITTED WHAT CHARGE ACTUALLY SAID AND SUBSTITUTED SOMETHING ELSE MORE GENERAL INSTEAD--ESPECIALLY AS WE DO IN FACT USE ARABIC FOR CONDUCT OF OFFICIAL BUSINESS HERE BY INCLUDING AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION IN ARABIC OF ALL OUR NOTES, ETC.

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3. BELIEVE THE ANNOUNCEMENT LARG MADE WILL RESULT IN

MCCREADY AND GIBSON VISAS BEING ISSUED PROMPTLY,
PARTICULARLY IF SENT OVER UNDER COVER OF NOTE
DEPARTMENT DESCRIBES STATE 202032. RECOMMEND AGAINST
ANY THOUGHT OF RELYING COMPLETELY ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT
AND OMITTING THE NOTE. THAT MIGHT ENHANCE OUR
FLEXIBILITY AT SOME STAGE BUT ARE CONCERNED, AT THIS
POINT, NOT TO JEOPARDIZE VISAS FOR NEW TCU MEN IN
ANY WAY. INCIDENTALLY, HUBAYSHI OFF-HANDEDLY ASKED
US TODAY FOR A NOTE CONFIRMING WHAT CHARGE TOLD
BU SHAKUR OCT 13 (A STANDARD MFA PRACTICE). WE WOULD
PREFER TO LEAVE GOOD ENOUGH ALONE AND NOT SEND A NOTE
UNLESS NECESSARY, BUT WILL FOLLOW DEPT GUIDANCE ON THIS.

JOSIF

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